

EPISODE OUTLINE - THE RESPONSIBILITY/DOG SHOW (Episode 24)

Principal Characters:	Supporting Characters:	Extras:
All	Ginny Stunt dog	2 Passenger

SOCIAL THEME: Learning responsibility

STATION EVENT: Schemer gets guard dog; we meet Ginny

THOMAS EPISODES: "Dirty Objects" and "The Trouble With Mud"

PUPPET SONG: "The Railroad Cars are Coming".

PICTURE MACHINE SONG: None

ACQUIRED FOOTAGE: TBD

CREATIVE PLAY: None

BILLY STORY: Respect for animals.

RESOLUTION: Sometimes you have to make sacrifices to be responsible.

STORY OUTLINE: It's periodic clean up time at the station: Stacy, is cleaning the ticket booth area, and Mr. Conductor is cleaning outside his signal house. The kids are only half-heartedly cleaning up around the lost and found area. Stacy tries to get them more involved, to take more responsibility for their mess, but they aren't very interested. Even as they speak, a passenger walks through the station and drops some litter on the floor.

Stacy needs Billy to help her work out a new freight arrival and departure schedule, but Billy is busy arranging his workshop and says he can get to the schedule soon. He says: "Everything in its own time." This is the beginning of a source of conflict between Billy and Stacy to be developed in later episodes. Here Stacy notes her concern to Mr. Conductor, who pops off to visit Billy.

A scene needed here to establish Billy's relationship with Mr. Conductor. This is basically a lighthearted relationship, where Mr. Conductor is always trying to surprise the stoic, unflappable Billy, by making sudden and strange appearances or sneaking up on him. Billy would refer to him as a "trickster, like the Coyote." Of all the figures in Native American Lore, Coyote is the most widely known.

*repeated
from
earlier
episode*

After Mr. Conductor fails to startle Billy, he disappears. Billy looks around, and a broad smile crosses his face.

Ginny enters and is introduced. She has come to town to complain about someone who has been dumping trash on her land. From a bag she's carrying, she pulls out an example of the trash (perhaps a rubber chicken). To make matters worse, her dog has wandered off. Billy emerges from his workshop, hears about the litter on her land, and makes a comment.

The kids go over to Mr. Conductor, who has a pile of odds and ends in front of his signal house. The kids complain about having to work. This leads into a TTE story: "Dirty Objects."

After the story, Schemer enters and wanders over to the kids. He sees the pile of dust and little objects in front of the signal house. He bends over to look at it, gets some dust up his nose and sneezes. While he wipes his nose, Mr. Conductor appears, grabs his things, and vanishes. Seeing that the objects are gone, Schemer's fears that the station is haunted are revived.

Schemer heads over to the arcade. The puppets see him coming and brace for the worst: Tito has been collecting the nickels and refusing to give them back, and they know Schemer wants them. We cut back to Schemer, who is predictably upset that there aren't any nickels in the jukebox box. To solve the mystery, Schemer drops in a nickel with a string attached to it. After the nickel falls down the slot Tito grabs it, and at the same time Schemer gives the string a tug. Before long, all the puppets are holding on to Tito, who is swinging in mid-air as he struggles to keep the nickel. Finally he lets go, and Schemer goes reeling backwards.

Now Schemer is convinced that he can't trust anyone or anything at the station. Someone, or something, is stealing from him. What he needs, he declares, is a guard dog. Schemer describes the ferocious kind of dog he has in mind, and exits vowing to make Shining Time Station safe once and for all for him and his arcade.

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Schemer returns with his guard dog, which is growling and nipping at his pant leg. He ties the dog to the post at his arcade. When Stacy approaches the dog wags its tail, and she comments that it doesn't seem very ferocious to her; but when Schemer approaches the dog growls at him. (As the show progresses, it becomes apparent that the one only the dog doesn't like is Schemer, while it likes everyone else.)

But Schemer has other plans: he puts up "Beware of the Dog" signs, and sets up an alarm system with trip wires at ankle height. When the alarm is activated, sirens, flashing lights, and the sounds of a wild pack of dogs fill the station. Satisfied that the alarm is working (he accidentally sets it off himself) Schemer exits, leaving the dog tied to the post.

Billy makes friends with the dog, and under his watchful eye so do the kids (make sure we don't suggest that it's all right for children to approach a guard dog without an adult being present). Billy describes how animals, like humans, have their role in life and need to be respected just as humans need respect. Billy's philosophy toward the dog and animals could be summarized as follows: Animals can't be owned. Animals know their "roles in life," and will go by them as long as a person fulfills their "role." Animals need to be allowed the respect and freedom any human deserves. Animals think -- they are not toys.

This philosophy can be delivered all at once, and referenced and expanded over the course of the story.

Schemer returns to see that the dog is friendly with everyone--except for him. Stacy chides him for putting up the alarms and not taking responsibility for the dog--Schemer isn't feeding him or cleaning up after him. Schemer protests he cleaning up after the dog, when he steps in (sound effect) the dog's droppings.

Since the dog is so friendly with everyone else, Schemer decides to give it to the kids--but it's his arcade and he insists on keeping the alarm system in place. The kids happily take the dog away, but ignore Stacy's advice about the responsibilities that come with having a dog.

*

The kids see there is more to having a dog than petting it: they need to take it for walks, to groom it, and feed it. For example, when they forget to feed the dog, Stacy and Billy "forget" to feed the kids, and when the kids get hungry they see the parallel to feeding the dog.

Mr. Conductor appears, covered with mud from his trip to Sodor. The dog licks him off. He tells TTE story: "The Trouble With Mud."

After the story, Mr. Conductor "talks" to the dog and learns that the dog belongs to Ginny the farmer. The kids realize that the dog will have to be returned because it is the responsible thing to do--but it's also a sacrifice and the thought of losing the dog makes them feel sad. They discuss it with Stacy, and then she calls Ginny. Billy comments on relationship between owner and pet: that Ginny doesn't really own the dog since no one can own a living thing. But the dog does have a home where it wants to be and it belongs.

Time passes. Billy finally comes up with the new freight schedule, explaining that he wanted to think it over carefully before finishing it. Stacy notes that it took him all day. Yes, Billy agrees, but that's how long it had to take to get it right: some things can't be rushed, and he did the responsible thing in its own time.

Because of Schemer's alarm system, no one is visiting the arcade. A passenger walks past, starts to enter, then sees the signs and hurries away. Even the puppets comment on it: they are so bored they begin discussing leaving and speculate on places they would like to go.

Ginny arrives and tells the kids they can come and visit the dog any time at her farm. She's brought them a homemade apple pie as a reward. Then she turns on Schemer, and accuses him of taking her dog. Schemer says (truthfully) that he simply found the dog and brought it to the station because it was cheaper than buying one. While it wasn't stealing, it was irresponsible, and Schemer knows he did the wrong thing.

Adding to his problems, Schemer discovers that his alarm system worked so well that he didn't make any money in his arcade machines. He spies a passenger and tries to drag him into the arcade: when he does, the alarm goes off and the passenger runs out of the station in fear for his life.

The puppets have had enough of this nonsense, and begin to play on their own.

PUPPET SONG: "The Railroad Cars are Coming".

Resigned, Schemer declares that "This place isn't fit for a dog," and sinks down to sit on the step of his arcade when (sound effect) he's sat in the dog's droppings. Miserable, he puts his head in his hands and heaves a huge sigh.

THE RAILROAD CARS ARE COMING

Federal government experiments with camels in the 1850's were no go. The hope was that caravans of dromedaries might carry freight traffic from New Orleans to the west coast. . . . Horse, mule, burro, were good overland freighters. But the box car was better; it gave cruel desert spaces a friendly and human look. . . . As the work gangs spiked rails to ties and the eastern and western gangs came closer, this song arose, one with jubilation, one with laughter at the prairie dog, the rattlesnake and owl having their dominion of the desert interrupted. . . . We have this text and tune from Margery K. Forsythe of Chicago, who learned it from her pioneer mother.

Arr. H. F. P.

The great Pa-cif-ic rail-way, for Cal-i-for-ni-a hail! Bring on the lo-co-mo-tive, Lay
 down the i-ron rail; A-cross the roll-ing prair-ies, By Steam we're bound to go, The
 rail-road cars are com-ing, hum-ming Through . . . New Mex-i-co, The

rail - r

1 The
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THE RAILROAD CARS ARE COMING

rail - road cars are com-ing, hum-ming Through New Mex-i - co.

1 The great Pacific railway,
For California hail!
Bring on the locomotive,
Lay down the iron rail;
Across the rolling prairies
By steam we're bound to go,
The railroad cars are coming, humming
Through New Mexico,
The railroad cars are coming, humming
Through New Mexico.

2 The little dogs in dog-town
Will wag each little tail;
They'll think that something's coming
A-riding on a rail.
The rattle-snake will show its fangs,
The owl tu-whit, tu-who,
The railroad cars are coming, humming
Through New Mexico,
The railroad cars are coming, humming
Through New Mexico.



6/6/91

#24

THE RESPONSIBILITY/DOG SHOW

SHINING TIME STATION

BY

Wilson Coneybeare

Revised first draft

May 31, 1991

SCENE 1
(MAINSET)

(IT'S CLEAN UP TIME WITH STACY AT THE TICKET BOOTH WEARING A SMOCK, DUSTING COUNTER TOP AND POLISHING BRASS. MR. CONDUCTOR IS CLEANING HIS SIGNAL HOUSE WITH A TOOTHBRUSH AND A SMALL RAG.

AT LOST AND FOUND AREA, KARA IS DUSTING, DAN STACKING BOXES, AND VICKIE SITS READING A BOOK)

DAN

I don't see why we
always have to be
cleaning. It's not like
people buy tickets or
ride the train because
the station's clean.

STACY

We're all a part of
Shining Time station, so
it's all of our
responsibility to keep it
clean. That means you
too, Vickie.

VICKIE

But I already swept the
steps this morning.

DAN

(GOING TO STEPS, HE PICKS UP
LITTER)

Then what's this cheese
Giggle wrapper doing
here?

VICKIE

What cheese Giggie Wrap-

(SEES IT, SIGHS, RISING)

But what's the point of
cleaning something when
someone always makes it
messy again?

MR. C

Perhaps the idea is to
become so good at
cleaning, that it makes
messing things up that
much more fun.

(KIDS STOP AND THINK ABOUT THIS,
TOTALLY CONFUSED, TURN TO STACY,
WHO LAUGHS)

STACY

I think what Mr.
Conductor means
is---

(AT THAT MOMENTS BILLY CROSSES
THROUGH ON THE WAY TO THE WORKSHOP.
HE CARRIES A RAILROAD WARNING BELL)

Billy!

MR. C

Actually, I wasn't
talking about Billy at
all, but he can be quite
clean as well.

(ON STACY AND BILLY)

BILLY

Let me guess: You're
going to ask me if I
made up next week's
freight arrival and
departure schedule?

Ying + Yang

*Messing up a place that's
already messy is no fun
at all
So you need to clean*

*Messing up a place that someone
else has cleaned*

*is
St's like swinging on a swing
the harder you work towards high point
the higher you swing forward
the more fun it is swinging
back.*

would need to be rewritten

STACY

Well, it does have
to be done today.

BILLY

I haven't even started.
Right now I've got to
fix this warning bell,
then after that the
generator.

(HE CHUCKLES AT STACY'S WORRY)

Don't worry Stacy. I'll
get to it in it's time.

(AS HE EXITS, GLANCES AT THE
STATION)

Mmm, always good to
smooth the feathers of
the nest. You missed a
spot.

(AND HE'S GONE)

Mr. C

He does have a point of
course. We must all do
things in our own time/You
have your way/He has his/
and I --- I have mine!

(WITH THAT HE POPS OFF TO:)

SCENE 2
(WORKSHOP)

(BILLY HAS PUT THE WARNING BELL ON
THE TABLE TOP AND IS ROOTING ON
SHELF FOR NUTS AND BOLTS, HIS BACK
TO LIGHT. MR. C APPEARS BEHIND
BELL, SLINKS AROUND AS IF HIDING,
WITHOUT TURNING, BILLY SAYS:)

BILLY

Mr. Conductor, finished
cleaning so soon?

MR C.

No, but these things do
take time. And speaking
of time---

(MR. C POPS ONTO SHELF)

--I'd say that Stacy's
worried about when you're
going to finish that
freight schedule.

BILLY

(RETURNING TO WORK AT TABLE)

Stacy knows we all do
things when we are meant
to do them, and not
before.

are ready to

(ABOUT TO SET TOOLS ON TABLE, BILLY
STOPS. MR. C APPEARS ON THE SPOT.
BILLY PUTS HIS TOOLS ON OTHER SIDE)

MR.C

Billy, how did you know I
was going to appear on
this very spot?

BILLY

Because you're sly Mr.
Conductor. Sly like the
coyote. But no matter how
hard you try, you're
never going to surprise
me.

MR. C

We'll see about that
Billy. Unfortunately, more
I cannot tell? or help
you with your bell/ for
here I sense comes Ginny/
from Farmer's Dell.

?

*could be
improved*

*more coherent & catchy
even if no more
understandable*

BILLY

I had a sense he'd do
that.

] ? do what?

SCENE 3

(INT MAINSET)

(ON STACY AT TICKET BOOTH. GINNY
ENTERS CARRYING TWO LARGE BURLAP
SACKS)

GINNY

(THE WORD IS ROBUST)

Well, hey hey hey! What
do we say today?

STACY

Hi there Ginny.

(THE KIDS REACT. DELIGHTED, DROP
THEIR CHORES AND CROWD GINNY)

KIDS

Hey it's Ginny. Hi Ginny
(etc)

GINNY

Well, if it isn't the
trainyard trio! Why don't
you look in the sack
there and see if there
isn't a little something
for the three of you?

(KIDS GO FOR SACK)

STACY

What can we do for you
Ginny?

GINNY

Miss Jones, I don't mind
saying that I had one
boondoggie of a morning!
First off: woke up to
find my dog Granger's
either run off or been
stolen...

STACY

Oh Ginny, I'm so sorry...

GINNY

Second off: I discover
someone's dumped all
sorts of garbage on my
back forty, things like...

VICKIE

(HOLDING UP RUBBER CHICKEN FROM
SACK; TOTALLY PERPLEXED)

A Chicken?

GINNY

Exactly! How did you
know? Oh! Oh no no no no!
You've opened the wrong
sack. Turn Ginny around
twice and paint her face
red in embarrassment for
being so silly. That's
the garbage I found,
which I'm taking right
over to Mayor
Flopdingier...along with a
good dose of complaining.
Let's try the other one.

(KIDS OPEN OTHER SACK, EXULT)

KIDS

Apples!

GINNY

Fresh from the orchard!
Thought I'd bring you a
bushel.

(KIDS EXCLAIM THANKS)

STACY

That's awfully nice of
you Ginny. You're always
bringing us things. Now
what can we do for you?

GINNY

Well, just come in to see
what time the parts for my
new hay wagon're coming
in... *from Twiddy Junction*

STACY

Well let's see ---

(AS STACY OPENS SCHEDULE BOOK WE GO
TO:)

(KIDS AT THE LOST AND FOUND AREA,
ALL OF THEM EATING APPLES)

VICKIE

It's always fun when
Ginny comes around.

KARA

That's because we always
get something fun to eat
when Ginny comes around.

yummy

VICKIE

She's so nice, I just
don't get why someone
would sneak onto her farm
and--

(MR.C POPS IN)

-- make a mess.

MR. C

Did you say 'mess'
Vickie? I must say, dirty
news travels fast.

KARA

What do you mean Mr.
Conductor?

MR. C

All the trouble on the
Island of Sodor. Aren't
you talking about James?

DAN

Was James in trouble this
morning?

MR. C

Trouble? I'd say it was
double trouble, which is
much worse than plain old
single trouble. Let me
show you what I mean...

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE)

SCENE 4

(TTE; "DIRTY OBJECTS")

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 5

(VICKIE, KARA, DAN AND MR C ARE STILL
CLEANING)

KARA

Mr. Conductor, did you
tell us that so we'd be
happier cleaning?

MR C

Oh no, I was comparing it
to Ginny's farm/that
sometimes even a little
mess can cause us harm.
And speaking of harm and
making things cleaner/ I
think I'll take a powder/
because here comes
Schemer!

(SCHEMER ENTERS WITH TOOLKIT IN
HAND, VERY AGITATED. HEADS STRAIGHT
TO ARCADE)

KIDS

Hi Schemer!

SCHEMER

Please, please! I can't
talk -- it's terrible, a
disaster --

(HE KNEELS BY JUKEBOX STARTS
FIDDLELING. KIDS EXCHANGE GLANCES,
SHRUG, APPROACH)

VICKIE

What's a terrible
disaster?

SCHEMER

I don't want to panic you
kids, but someone's been
stealing nickels from the
most innocent, trusting,
honest person
around---namely me.

(KIDS DON'T REACT, COULDN'T CARE
LESS)

What do I have to do--
paint a picture? This
jukebox that's
practically playing all
day and night--- has yet
to make Schemer a profit.
Well, it's a disaster, a *catastrophe*
true catacomb! *it's a disastrophe*

VICKIE

So you think something's
been happening to the
nickels?

*advance or emphasize
point, rather than falling backward
someones been
taking the nickel when you're not
watching*

SCHEMER

I know, I know; it makes
you want to scream in
fear. But don't worry.
I've got a way to solve
this mystery once and for
all. Ta DA

(HE REMOVES FROM HIS POCKET A NICKEL WITH A
STRING ATTACHED. APPROACHES JUKEBOX)

SCENE 6

(INT JUKEBOX)

TITO

Uh, oh. Here he comes!

DIDI

If he pushes "Pop goes
the weasel" one more
time, That's it. I quit.

(NICKEL COMES DOWN AND TITO GRABS IT)

REX

What's the song Tex?

TEX

I don't know. He hasn't
chosen one Rex.

DIDI

TITO!!

(THEY ALL REACT AS THEY REALIZE THAT TITO,
HOLDING ONTO THE STRUNG NICKEL, IS BEING
PULLED UP THE COIN SLOT.)

TITO

Man! This is what I call
hard currency! — *hard to hold on to*

SCENE 7

(INT. ARCADE)

(SCHEMER IS STRUGGLING TO PULL THE NICKEL
BACK)

KARA

What's the matter
Schemer?

SCHEMER

I don't know... something
is holding my... nickel..

SCENE 8

(INT JUKEBOX)

(EVERYONE IS HOLDING ONTO TITO, WHO WON'T LET
GO OF THE NICKEL)

TEX

I think we're being hog *hoodwinked*
tied here!

DIDI

Give it up Tito! You'll
get squeezed into the *pulled*
coin slot.

TITO

No way! I'm a
professional musician and
that means I get paid!

(THEY ARE ALL BEING LIFTED OFF THE GROUND)

TEX

Well, If you ask me, this
is one gig we'd better
let go!

(AND THEY DO)

SCENE 9

(INT ARCADE)

(SCHEMER GOES FLYING, LANDS ON HIS REAR.
SHOCKED. KIDS RUSH TO HELP HIM UP BUT HE
QUICKLY GETS UP AND DUSTS HIMSELF OFF)

SCHEMER

I'm all right. All Right.
But that's it! Someone's
been fiddling with my
machines and that means
Plan B!

FLIP TO:

SCENE 10

(INT MAINSET NEAR ARCADE)

(CLOSE ON BIG, FIERCE-LOOKING DOG)

STACY (O.S)

Schemer, what in the
world--?

(ANOTHER ANGLE REVEALS STACY CONSIDERING DOG
SITTING NEAR ARCADE. SCHEMER IS BUSY ON AND
OFF LADDERS, STEP STOOLS, ETC. SETTING UP
WHAT APPEARS TO BE AMAZINGLY ELABORATE
SECURITY SYSTEM)

SCHEMER

A guard Dog Miss Jones, a
guard dog. I have to make
this station safe for my
arcade and this is the
way-er-ooni! One big mean
ferocious person-hating
dog!

(DOG WAGS IT'S TAIL, RUSHES TO STACY, LICKS
HER HAND. CIRCLES AROUND HER IN DELIGHT)

STACY

You know Schemer,
something tells me you
didn't isn't get the right kind
of dog.

SCHEMER

What?

(SEES DOG AND STACY)

Well, uh, that's because
I--uh--trained him to uh,
like certain people, like
the manager. Anyway!
That's not the only
precaution I'm taking.

(STEPS OFF LADDER, STEPS BACK, A SWEEPING
GESTURE)

Viola! The Super Schemer
Safety Security System!

STACY

The what?

SCHEMER

Precise-er-ooni! It looks
innocent enough but the
minute someone tries to
tamper with the
machines---

(SCHEMER SETS OFF TRIP WIRE AND SUDDENLY
BEEPING BUZZERS, WHISTLES AND BELLS SOUND ---
A REAL RACKET. ACCOMPANIED BY A RECORDING OF
A PACK OF WILD DOGS. STACY HAS TO SHOUT OVER
THE NOISE)

-- they're in for quite a
surprise.

(SHUTS OFF SYSTEM, PRODUCES SIGN)

And this s the icing on
the candle!

(HE TAPES UP A "BEWARE OF DOG" SIGN)

STACY

Schemer, don't you think
you're going just a bit
overboard?

SCHEMER

Miss Jones Miss Jones
Miss Jones. There's no
such thing as going
overboard when there are
nickels involved.

(PRODUCES ROPE)

Come here dog.

(AS SCHEMER APPROACHES DOG IT
SNARLS AND GROWLS AND BARKS)

What's the matter with
him? doesn't he see the
employment opportunity
I'm giving him?

STACY

Schemer, we simply can't
have this at Shining Time
Station.

SCHEMER

It's my arcade and it's
my right to protect it.
At least we'll find out
whose been stealing my
nickels. And with my
trusty pooch---

(HE TIES DOG TO POST/ DOG SNARLS AND
GROWLS)

My good pal--my---

(HE FINISHES TYING DOG , JUMPS
BACK)

What'd I tell you? He
loves me!

(DOG BARKS AT HIM, SCHEMER JUMPS
BACK)

Okay okay, Mmph! Man's
best friend!

(WITH THAT HE'S GONE, STACY LOOKING
AFTER HIM)

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 11

(BILLY HUNKERED DOWN, IS FEEDING DOG
BISCUITS. SCRATCHING HIM AFFECTIONATELY
BEHIND EARS)

BILLY

That's a good boy. Good
Boy...

(DAN KARA AND VICKIE BOUNCE IN)

DAN

Hey Stacy wasn't fooling!
Schemer did get a dog!

KARA

Yeah and isn't he---

BILLY

(AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO CHARGE THE DOG FOR
PETTING PURPOSES)

Hold it there.

(THEY STOP)

I thought there was a
sign around here. I
wonder what it says ...

KARA

It's right there Billy.
It says "beware of dog".

BILLY

Well, don't you think you
should check with an
adult before you go
charging over to a
strange dog?

DAN

Can we pet him Billy?

BILLY

Well, he's pretty
ferocious. He
might--might--mind
you--well--lick your
hand!

(GRINS)

Go ahead.

(KIDS CONVERGE ON DOG)

VICKIE

He's a nice one. It
doesn't seem fair that
Schemer should own such a
nice dog.

BILLY

Schemer doesn't really
own this dog. I don't
think anybody can really
own an animal. Not a dog
or a cat, or a giraffe or
a lion or an elephant.
Ever try to catch a
squirrel? Or a bird? They
own themselves. The only
thing we can do is
understand that and do
what we can for them. But
an animal is not a toy;
it's a living thing. It
thinks.

DAN

You mean this dog thinks?

BILLY

In it's own way.

VICKIE

Yeah, I wonder what it
thinks of Schemer.

(SCHEMER ENTERS AND DOG GROWLS AND SNARLS.
SCHEMER REACT)

SCHEMER

Whoa, what kind of
respect is that to show
your master?

BILLY

Schemer, how can this dog
respect you when you
don't respect it? *him or her*

SCHEMER

Respect? It's a dog! It
can't count money or make
change or sell shares of
common stock.

BILLY

Respect for just being.

SCHEMER

Okay okay, You want me to
show it respect. Here
Mutt---

(REACHES FOR DOG SNARLS SCHEMER JUMPS
BACK)

What'd do that for?

BILLY

Oh, I don't know. Maybe
because you tied him up
and didn't take him for a
walk? Didn't feed him or
clean up after him---

SCHEMER

That is entirely---

(STEPPING BACK, SCHEMER STOPS DEAD, HOLDS
UNPLEASANT EXPRESSION, CONSIDERS THE SOLE OF
HIS SHOE)

--disgusting!

BILLY

Like I said "respect!"

SCHEMER

Respect yeah, uh... I
have a better idea.

(HE UNTIES DOG)

Because of my faith in
the super Schemer Safety
Security System I have
made a major business
decision! This dog isn't
really needed
therefore---

(THRUSTS ROPE AT KIDS)

-- Uh, I give him to you!
Exactly! And I wash my
hands of the whole
matter.

DAN

Better wash your shoes too!

(SCHEMER EXITS, HOPPING OUT, PASSING AN
ENTERING STACY KIDS WITH DOG BOUND
TO STACY)

DAN

Look aunt Stacy, Schemer
gave us his dog!

STACY

Are you kids sure you
want to take care of this
dog? You'll have to feed
him.

KIDS

We'll do that!

STACY

And Walk him?

KIDS

We'll do that too!

STACY

And keep him clean?

KIDS

Absolutely

STACY

And clean up after him?

KIDS

(NOT SO SURE)

Uh, yeah, sure.

STACY

Well, if you really
promise, then we can keep
him around.

KIDS

Great! You're the
greatest etc..

(KIDS TAKE OFF WITH DOG LEAVING STACY TO
HERSELF)

STACY

Something tells me I just
got myself a dog.

DISSOLVE TO:

SCENE 12
(MAINSET)

(MAINSET IS EMPTY, STACY ENTERS, GOES TO CLOSE
WORKSHOP DOOR, KNOCKS TWICE)

STACY:

Billy?

(SHE STOPS, FOR THE DOOR IS AJAR. SHE POKES
HER HEAD IN)

SCENE 13

(INT. WORKSHOP)

(THE ROOM IS EMPTY. ALTHOUGH STACY SEES BIG
NOTE. SHE ENTERS AND READS IT)

STACY

Billy?

(SEEING HE'S NOT THERE, SHE RETURNS
TO:)

SCENE 14

(MAINSET)

STACY

Now where in the --hello

(THIS LAST IS DELIVERED TO THE DOG WHO IS
LYING ALONE ON THE FLOOR BEHIND THE TICKET
BOOTH, LOOKING VERY SAD, STACY KNEEL AND PETS
THE DOG)

Did they forget all about
you? I bet they did. You
must be hungry. Where are
those dog biscuits? Here
they are.

(FEEDS HIM DOG BISCUIT)

That's a good boy.

(KIDS ENTER, UNABLE TO SEE THE DOG BEHIND THE
COUNTER)

KIDS

Stacy, Stacy?

STACY

(FROM BEHIND COUNTER)

Here I am. Hey has anyone
seen the dog?

KARA AND VICKIE

(WORRIED LOOK OF REALIZATION)

The dog! We forgot all about the
dog!

STACY

Well, when was the last
time you feed him?

(KIDS LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER AND SHIFT
UNCOMFORTABLY)

Took him for a walk?
Gave him water?

DAN

I guess we sort of
forgot, Aunt Stacy. We
don't even know where he
is.

(DOG BARKS, COMES OUT FROM BEHIND THE
COUNTER, KIDS REACT)

KIDS

There he is! Hey Boy!

KARA

We're sorry boy, we just
forgot. But don't you
worry--we'll feed you
right after lunch.

VICKIE

Hey Stacy, when is lunch?

STACY

(DOING HER PAPERWORK)

Lunch? Oh, I don't know.
Maybe we'll have lunch,
maybe we won't. Maybe in
an hour, maybe not---

KARA

You mean, we might not
eat?

DAN

Hey Aunt Stacy, you
forgot to feed us.

VICKIE

Yeah, like we forgot to
feed the dog.

(KIDS LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER; GUILT ALL AROUND)

DAN

I'll get his water bowl.

KARA

The dog dish is over here.

VICKIE

I'll get the dog food.

(AND AS THEY SET ABOUT DOING THIS MR C POPS
IN COVERED WITH MUD. HE'S TRYING TO CLEAN
HIMSELF WITH A CLOTH)

DAN

(SETTING DOWN THE BOWL)

Hi Mr. Conductor! See
we've got ourselves a
dog.

Mr C

You certainly do.

(MR C BARKS, THE DOG BARKS BACK)

And he's a friendly one
too.

KARA

(SETTING DOWN THE DOG DISH)

You look like you stepped
in a mud puddle Mr.
Conductor.

MR.C

That or the mud puddle
stepped on me.

(DOG LICKS OFF SOME DIRT. MR C DOFFS HIS
CAP)

Thank you, that's most
kind. I wish your friend
was there to help Gordon
this morning on the
Island of Sodor.

VICKIE

Why? What's been
happening?

MR C

Well, instead of getting
himself near a bucket of
water, Gordon got himself
in quite a large bucket of
trouble. It started
cleanly enough--- Well
let me tell you about
it...

(BLOW WHISTLE)

SCENE 15

(TTE; "THE TROUBLE WITH MUD")

(DISSOLVE TO)

SCENE 16

MR C

Perhaps if Gordon had
heard Stacy's rule about
a clean station being a
happy station, none of it
would have happened. You
see, the same is true of
trains. It really is much
easier to get to one's
tasks when things are
clean and in order.
Wouldn't you agree?

(DOG BARKS)

Pardon me?

(DOG BARKS)

Oh no! Well, that is a
problem

STACY

(COMING OVER INTRIGUED)

That's amazing Mr
Conductor. I didn't know
you understood dog.

MR C

Of course. I'm fluent in
every language from
elephant to parakeet.

(ASIDE)

Although you must be
careful of parakeets, as
they're apt to bend the
truth just to make what
they say rhyme.

perhaps
could be
written as a rhyme

KARA

What's our dog saying?

MR C
I'm afraid he's saying
he's not your dog. He
comes from Farmers Dell,
and he's most anxious to
return.

STACY

You mean that this is the dog that
Ginny lost this morning? That's
wonderful! We'll have to call her
right away

VICKIE

Ginny's Dog?

(KIDS LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER, DISCONSOLATE)

KARA

You mean we have to give
him back?

DAN

Do we have to?

STACY
I know how you feel but
really it's-- Well let me
explain.

(SHE SITS ON STEPS, KIDS AROUND
HER)

Sometimes there are
things so difficult to do
that you just can't
imagine how you'll be
able to do them. Like
when I was a little girl,
I found a red wagon out
on Dumpling Road.
Imagine! Just what I'd
always wanted -- a red
wagon! I loved it so much
I took it everywhere...
Until I discovered my
best friend Penny had
lost her red wagon--

VICKIE

Was it the same wagon?

STACY

Well, I told Penny it was certainly not the same wagon. But Deep deep deep down even I had to admit it probably was. And ~~having the red wagon that~~ way didn't make it so fun anymore. So, I did the hardest thing I could imagine: I gave it back.

to, when I knew that it belonged to Penny it wasn't any fun playing with it any more

KARA

Played together & made up knew games with it

But the dog likes it here at the Station.

STACY

I know he likes it here kids, but the farm is where he belongs.

MR. C

Indeed, Stacy's quite right/That's where he feels his home is/ To play during they day and sleep at night.

(KIDS LOOK AR ONE ANOTHER> FINALLY:)

DAN

You know, I don't think I like this whole responsibility thing.

STACY

(LAUGHS AND TOUSLES HIS HAIR)

It grows on you. I've got
an idea! Instead of me
calling Ginny, why don't *call her*
you three? I think that
would make everyone feel
better!

(KIDS BRIGHTEN A BIT, AND MOVE TO PHONE AS):

SCENE 17

(INT. JUKEBOX)

(DIDI IS LOOKING OUT)

DIDI

That's the saddest thing
I've ever seen, giving up
that dog. If we don't
play something soon I'm
gonna cry.

TITO;

Man, if someone doesn't
pay us to play something
soon I'm gonna cry too.

TEX

Well, I don't see how
that's gonna happen if
everyone's afraid to come
near the machines. And
that leaves us all alone,
like a dog--

REX

Or a bone.

TEX

That's good, Rex.

REX

Thank you Tex.

TEX

Maybe gotten' to be time
to hitch our wagons to
another train.

DIDI

You mean move out of the
Jukebox? Where would we
go?

REX

Well, I suppose we could
always move into
someone's glove
compartment and be a car
radio.

good

TITO

I'm too old to be a car
radio again.

TEX

Or we could be the inside
of one of those portable
stereos.

TITO

I need space; I don't
want to be cramped up
like that. I'd play for
free before I move there.

REX

Well in that case, what
are we waiting for?

TEX

Let's do her Rex.

TITO

And a one, and a two...

(WITH THAT THEY GO INTO "RAILROAD
CARS ARE COMING")

SCENE 18

(INT. WORKSHOP)

(BILLY IS WORKING ON WARNING LIGHT
WHEN STACY ENTERS)

STACY

You should have heard
Ginny when the kids told
her about the dog. She
was so excited! She's on
her way over.

BILLY

That's good. Now he can
be where he wants to be.

STACY

Speaking of needing
things, Billy -- the
freight schedule is---

BILLY

(GESTURES WITH SCREW DRIVER)

Right there.

STACY

You mean it's done?

BILLY

All done. You see, I just
needed to think about it
awhile before I put it
down on paper. And
then---

] *use metaphor*

STACY

And then you did it --
just like that?

BILLY

It wasn't so hard, once
I'd taken that time.

STACY

Well I guess I should
apologize for being
pushy. I just wanted to--

*telling
you so many times*

(SHE'S INTERRUPTED BY BELLS AND
WHISTLES AND BUZZERS)

cover my ears...

SCENE 19

(INT. MAINSET)

(SCHEMER'S SECURITY SYSTEM HAS GONE OFF AT
FULL TILT. A CUSTOMER IS PANICKED, TEARS DOWN
THE STEPS AWAY FROM THE ARCADE AS BILLY AND
STACY RUSH IN. FROM THE OTHER SIDE COME KIDS
AND DOGS. CUSTOMER, TERRIFIED, TURNS BEFORE
EXITING)

COSTUMER

All I wanted was Cheese
Giggles!

(HE BOLTS)

BILLY

I think Schemer's
security system has gone
far enough.

(BILLY GOES AND SHUTS IT OFF AS SCHEMER
RUSHES IN WITH HIS LARGE NET)

SCHEMER

Who was it? Who was it?
I've got them now!

STACY

Schemer, it was a
costumer.
Someone wanting to use the
machines!

SCHEMER

A costumer? Where is he ?

VICKIE

He's probably at CHubby
Corners by now.

KARA

Yeah, and I thought I was
a fast runner.

(GINNY ENTERS)

GINNY

Well hey, hey, hey!
What's the Granger got to
say?

(THE DOG REACTS AND RUNS TO GINNY, JUMPS ALL
OVER HER)

GINNY

That's a boy, that's a
boy. It's just old Ginny,
that's all. I bet you'll
be sorry to go home after
causing these nice folks
all sorts of trouble.

DAN

He wasn't any trouble at
all. We're going to miss
him.

GINNY

Miss him? Well, Hey! Turn the fencepost around and get her out of the sunlight but what's to say you can't come and visit Granger on the farm anytime?

KARA

Can we?

GINNY

Can ya? I think Granger would be upset if you didn't. Isn't that right?

(DOG WAGS IT'S TAIL, KIDS CROWD DOG)

SCHEMER

Wait a minute! This is your dog?

GINNY

My dog who mysteriously disappeared from the farm this morning Schemer.

SCHEMER

The Schemer is absolutely innocent! I found him, that's all, and said to myself, "Schemer you can't deny it: no reason to pay for a dog when you can have this one for free."

GINNY

Okay Schemer. So you didn't steal him.

SCHEMER

Of Course not. I accept your apology.

GINNY

I'm not apologizin'

SCHEMER

Okay okay! So the
Schemster was a little
irresponsible. Sort of
irresponsible? Totally
irresponsible?

GINNY

In that case I accept
your apology.

SCHEMER

But I wasn't---

(AT THAT MOMENT A RAILROAD GUY ENTERS WITH
CLIPBOARD)

RR GUY

Freight just came in!

STACY

That'll be the packages
you were expecting Ginny!
Come on, everybody, let's
all help Ginny load up
her truck.

(ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSES AS THEY ALL HEAD OUT)
(AS SHE TURN TO GO SHE HANDS PAPER TO RR GUY)

Here's next weeks freight
schedule.

RR GUY

Much obliged, Miss Jones, much
obliged.

(STACY EXITS. RR GUY GOES OVER SCHEDULE WHILE
SCHEMER CHECKS THE COIN RETURNS ON HIS
MACHINES, SINGING TO HIMSELF:)

SCHEMER

Every time it rains, it rains
pennies from Heaven, don't you
know each machine contains pennies
from - - nothing? Nothing?!

RR GUY

Hey, do those old things
work? It might be nice to
hear a tune.

SCHEMER

A tune? Of course! Right
here.

(BUT AS THE RR GUY STEPS UP THE ALARM GOES
CRAZY AND THE GUY RUSHES OFF, TERRIFIED,
SCHEMER PANICS)

No, wait! Wait!

(HE RUSHES AFTER RR GUY STOPS,
CALLS OFF AFTER HIM)

That's all right. I don't
need you! You know why?
Because if you don't use
the machines, I don't
make any money, and if
you do use them, I still
don't make any money. So
there

REX (O.S)

(VAGUE FROM JUKEBOX)

What do you say we try
that railroad job again?
One two three four!

(MUSIC STARTS UP, A REPRISE.
SCHEMER REACTS)

SCHEMER

Said that? Who started
the machine? Where are my
nickel? That settles it!
This place is definitely
haunted.

(HE MOVES TO SIT ON STEPS, TOTALLY FORLORN)
(AND AS HE SITS, HE BECOMES DISCOMFITED
AGAIN, FINALLY REACTS, LOOKS AT HIS SHOW IN
DISGUST AS WE;)

(CREDITS)

(END)